

HEARD

Nature Photographers

www.heardnaturephotographers.com



Volume 33, Issue No. 2

February, 2017

PRESIDENT'S LETTER FOR FEBRUARY, 2017

R. E. (Ron) Marabito, President

First off this month, let me apologize for overlooking the greeting to guests at last month's meeting. If any of you is reading this month's newsletter, please come to the February meeting so I can make it up to you.

The By-Laws Committee finished its review of the proposed By-Laws and when completed with a proof reading, I will present it to the Board for their review and approval. After that, you get to vote on it. We have also put together a Policies and Procedures document that will be included.

Since we were having some problems getting a hard copy of the Waiver of Liability to our Field Trip Coordinator, we decided to change the new member sign-up some to accommodate that and also payment of dues. We are now putting into place a PayPal account to make payment easy for both new and existing members. It should be up and running by the time you attend the February meeting.

Entries to the Heard Photo Contest will open on February 4th. I hope all of the members will enter at least one image. It's easy and don't tell me you're not good enough. Everyone captures a good shot, even if it's an accident, but most of you are very capable, so please make the club proud of you.

Terree Stone just hosted a field trip to "The Dallas World Aquarium" on Saturday, January 21st. It was a great success with at least 15 people participating. It had been several years since my last visit, but it was good and challenging with the crowds. It would not hurt to have a fast lens, because many of the exhibits are poorly lit. I found that my 75 to 300 mm lens worked the best. It just wasn't as fast as I wanted much of the time. We had lunch right there at the Aquarium. Many stayed afterwards to shoot some more. Great trip Terree.

Well, here we are again. It is almost time for the Trout Lilies to pop up at the Heard. It usually occurs about the third week of February or a week after our meeting. If you are not signed up for this event, get on the list. These are wonderful little flowers that grow wild on the forest floor. They don't last long so get prepared. I typically use my 180mm macro lens, but other lenses will work. Perhaps the thing most overlooked is depth of field. Remember that the closer to the subject you are, the shallower the depth of field. These flowers range in size from about ½" as a bud up to 2" in full bloom. If I want the entire flower in focus, I need to be about 36" or more from them with my lens. That is with an aperture of f22. I suggest you look at some charts or at an application on your smart phone to determine what you need.

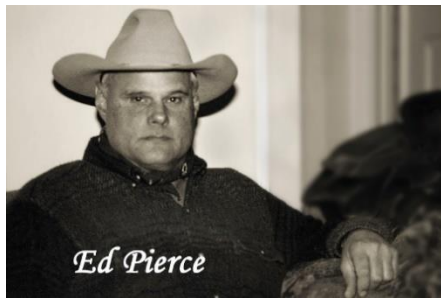
Check with Tom Heath, Brian Clark, Larry Petterborg, Peter Gilbert, Lee Hatfield or other senior members of the club for assistance. I will be available to assist if you need it. Here are a couple of my images to whet your appetite.



Below are the February Refreshment Volunteers:

- John Yates
- Rob Hull
- Kay Griffith

- Donation Refreshment fund if necessary



Be sure to sign up at the next meeting to bring snacks to a future meeting. If you would prefer to just give some **money** for refreshments, that's ok too. Please make donations to the club by way of Club Treasurer, **Peter Gilbert**. Thanks to all that contribute to making our meetings more enjoyable!

A reminder from the new Club Treasurer

If you have not yet paid your 2017 club membership dues and would like to, folks can see me at the February meeting, or mail me a check for \$20 made out to HNPC, to

Peter Gilbert
3075 Willow Grove Blvd. Apt 3202
McKinney, TX 75070

Add any family member also renewing or joining in the check memo section, for my records.

“JUST ONE PHOTO” - February

The letter “W”

February’s subject is the letter “**W**”. The subject of your image should have something or a theme that starts with the letter “W”, for example water, weather, wide angle image, wheel, white, etc. Send me ONE photo that you have taken during the month of February that represents your interpretation of the subject. I need the photo emailed to me by midnight of February 28th. You can put your name or initials on the photos if you'd like. This is not a contest to be judged, just an opportunity to show off your talent. Make sure you send your photo in a **.jpg** format, please resize to have longest side 2000 pixels. Email to: t.stone3@sbcglobal.net .

FEBURARY MEETING SPEAKER

Hermilo Escareno

“GoPro and DLSR Video Photography”

While **Hermilo Escareno** has been an Arlington Camera employee for fifteen years, he also has a lengthy background working in other areas of the photo industry. Hermilo worked for Ritz/Wolf for five years in Fuji/Noritsu repair & service as well as in camera sales. Hermilo is a life long student and back in college finishing a business degree. He also has interest in gum bichromate printing, which is a 19th century multi-layered printing process based on light sensitivity to dichromates (salts) in which the finished image may resemble a painting. He keeps moving forward and has worked in many media including film, ceramics, acrylic, watercolor, clay and printmaking. He believes that in order to be a great sales person you have to teach people what they need. Education is key!

2017 SPEAKERS AND PROGRAMS

Date	Speaker	Subject
14-Jan	Jeff Parker	Jaguars and the Pantanal
11-Feb	Arlington Camera	GoPro and DSLR video photography
11-Mar	Dennis Fritche	Printing
8-Apr	Ron Marabito	Yellowstone
13-May	Frank Richards	Leading the Eye
10-Jun	Mike Mezeul	The Lava Experience - shooting the Big Island's volcano
8-Jul		
12-Aug		
9-Sep	Kathy Adams Clark	Travel Photography
14-Oct		
11-Nov	Dan Leffel	TBD

IT'S CONTEST TIME AGAIN!!!



2016 Best of Show

Grand Canyon 2015 by Dennis Fritsche

2017 ANNUAL HEARD NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST: February 4 – 26, 2017

Calling all nature photographers! Just a reminder that we are quickly approaching the 2017 nature photography contest. Wondering what to submit? The categories for the Adult and Youth Divisions are available on our website (www.heardnaturephotographers.com). As always, there are lots of choices!

With 2017 submissions being accepted between February 4 and February 26, detailed contest information on the website is ready for your review now. There's even a page explaining how to prepare your images for submission (especially the part about metadata). Please review this information before submitting images. Metadata is especially important for those of us who prepare the images for the award presentation and for displaying images on the website.

Quick note though: the actual page for submitting images won't be showing until February 4 !!!

If you have questions about the contest, please contact anyone on the contest committee: Ron Marabito, Peter Gilbert, Terree Stone, Anita Oakley, Jackie Ranney, Mary Binford or Rob Hull.

FUTURE FIELD TRIPS

If you are interested in any of the trips, please sign up at the meeting or email me so I can send specific information to you prior to the trip. We are looking forward to seeing you on our upcoming outings.

Field Trips

I'm going to start rating our trips so that those of you that can't make the trip and want to go at a different time will have an idea of the pro and cons for that place. I'm going to be rating the places from 🏠 - may not be worth your time, to 🏠 🏠 🏠 🏠 🏠 - must see. **This is based on my opinion only.**

NEXT FIELD TRIP – Trout lilies - Saturday the 18th or Saturday the 25th - 2pm

For this trip we will meet at the Heard Museum at 2 pm. Most of the information I've found on the lilies say the blooms are open in the afternoon.

We will meet at the front door of the Heard Museum.

Admission: \$10/Seniors \$7 [if you are a member of the Heard Museum you can enter for free]

Equipment:

Bring a variety of lenses; Macro would work best if you have one. We will be shooting very close to the ground, so might want to bring padding for your knees, etc. Ron Marabito shared his secret of an inexpensive light diffuser and background in one – a plastic gallon milk jug. (I'll have an example at the meeting) Reflector if you have it.

A little bit about the Trout Lily:

A trout lily is a small plant with long pointed leaves that are spotted, hence the name trout lily. The plant has a single flower that blooms for a short period in the early spring. It takes approximately 7 years for this plant to mature enough to bloom. It is actually important to the ecosystem as it takes up nutrients that would be lost in the cooler temperatures and then releases those nutrients as it gets warmer and the plant dies back. It also provides necessary food and pollen for insects during a period when there isn't anything else blooming.



Trout Lilies and bee by Larry Petterborg

Field Trip Report – Dallas World Aquarium – January 21st

We had a large group attend our first field trip of the year – Ron and Shirley Marabito, Dennis Fritsche, Mary Binford, Brian Clark, Larry and Ann Wechsler, Jimmy Lee, Jerry Reece, Linda Isaacson, Pat McCormick, Jen Carrick, Peter Gilbert, and Wen Chi and Cindy Lee. The Aquarium is a popular place, so we did have to contend with the crowd. There were lots of species to photograph and it looked like everyone was able to get some good shots.



Rating: 

Pros: Large variety of species to photograph. Some of the enclosures were set up with nice backgrounds. There are three places to eat within the Aquarium, so you don't have to leave when you wanted to take a break.

Cons: Walkways are narrow in a several places, so it can get crowded when there are a lot of people there. The lighting was difficult in several areas, would probably be better on a bright sunny day. Also would make sure to have a rubber lens hood to block out some of the reflections on the glass enclosures. The admission is a little expensive compared to other aquariums and zoos in the area.

Overall, I would go back to the Aquarium, probably during the week when there wouldn't be as many people

Please sign up for field trips in advance so that we know who plans to attend, t.stone3@sbcglobal.net

NORTH TEXAS NATURE NOTES

In this space, I plan to highlight things for North Texas nature photographers to see and do. Please feel free to send me items of interest to share with the club. Thanks.



American Bald Eagles at Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge by Larry Petterborg. Jan. 2017.

1. Free Lecture on "Tintype Photographs" at UTD.

Anyone who would like to learn more about the process, see the work of a modern tintype master or just has an interest in photography and its history is invited to attend a free lecture and PowerPoint show at the University of Texas at Dallas. Keliy Anderson-Staley, a Houston-based artist, will talk about her work with wet-plate collodion tintypes and ambrotypes and show some of the haunting images she has produced, discussing them and explaining how they were made.

The presentation will be on Tuesday, February 28, 2017, at 7:00pm in the Davidson Auditorium, Erik Jonsson Academic Center, on the UT Dallas campus. UT Dallas is located in Richardson, TX, at 800 West Campbell Road, 75080-3021. A campus map is available at the school website "utdallas.edu"; the auditorium is identified on the map as JSOM 1.1118. The event is free and open to the public.

2. John Bunker Sands Wetlands



THE WETLAND CENTER IS LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE AND WE NEED **YOUR** INPUT!

Attendees will gain an understanding of our facility, learn about programs we offer, and be able to provide input to envision our next several years.

Join us on the evening of **Thursday, February 2, 2017**
6:00pm-8:30pm

- Overview presentation about the facility – 6:00 to 6:30 pm
- Open house (come and go as you please) – 6:30 to 7:30 pm
- Guided nighttime walking tour on the boardwalk – 7:30 to 8:30 pm

Join us for one, two, or all three parts. We would love to hear your feedback!

John Bunker Sands Wetland Center
655 Martin Lane
Combine / Seagoville, TX 75159

For more information, please contact
John DeFillipo, Director
972-474-9100 | jdefillipo@wetlandcenter.com
www.wetlandcenter.com

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3. GULF STATES CAMERAL CLUB COUNCIL 2017 CONVENTION (<http://www.gulfstatesccc.org/convention-1/>)

Mark Your Calendars

Gulf States Camera Club Council 2017 Convention Fort Worth, TX Thursday, May 4th - Sunday, May 7th

Whether you are an expert, or just starting out, this convention has a lot to offer you!

Hosted by Cowtown Camera Club, Fort Worth, TX

The convention hotel is the **Marriott at Champions Circle**, 3300 Champions Parkway, Fort Worth, located next to the Texas Motor Speedway. A link for registering with the special conference rate of \$99.00 per night is available [HERE](#). The last day to book online at this rate is April 24. The following speakers are scheduled to present (check <http://www.gulfstatesccc.org/convention-1/> for updates):

TYLER STABLEFORD: Canon Explorer of Light, Director/DP and photographer.

EARL NOTTINGHAM: For over 35 years, Earl Nottingham has been telling the story of Texas and much of the American Southwest through his photography and is considered one of Texas' preeminent photographers.

MIKE MEZEUL II: "I am addicted to photography and adventure."

DAVID WOO: A 35-year veteran photographer with The Dallas Morning News.

MATT SHORT: Filmmaker and Aerial Photographer.

ROB HULL: Certified Professional Photographer and owner of GreatPhotography.

FOR SALE

Nikon D50 Converted to Infrared (body only) \$350.00

paul.gray@russell-gray.com

WEB SITES THAT YOU MIGHT ENJOY

<http://lightroomkillertips.com/move-lightroom-another-computer-not-get-burned/>

<http://digital-photography-school.com/ultimate-guide-landscape-photography/>

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=ael_mZafwMc

<https://www.dpreview.com/news/4643818257/pulse-extreme-weather-in-black-and-white>

<http://www.nwf.org/PhotoContest.aspx>

<http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/outdoor-photographer-year-competition-winners-revealed-1601516>

<http://www.archdaily.com/803406/take-harvards-online-course-in-digital-photography-for-free>

MEET Larry Wecsler (HNPC CO-VP)



1. How long have you been a member of the Heard Nature Photographer Club?
Two and a half years.
2. How long have you been "doing" photography? What sparked your initial interest in photography in general? How did you become interested in "nature photography"?
 - Although I have only been serious about **digital** nature photography for the past six years, I have been around photography for at least 50 years. To explain: I worked in television and in corporate training for many years including as a TV director and then combat cameraman in the US Army.
 - I have always been interested in nature photography – my interest started while looking at National Geographic at the dentist office when I was a kid.
 - And as a kid I made many visits the Museum of Natural History in New York. Nature photography became a natural extension of viewing the hundreds of animal dioramas within the museum.

3. What has been your most memorable nature photo experience?

Going down the Old Belize River (in Belize) in a small open boat during a driving rain storm. I did, however, get that photo of a very wet Jabiru stork.

What have you not been able to do and most want to do in nature photography?

I would like to go on an African Photo Safari. (Doesn't everyone?)

4. What advice do you have for nature photographers in the club?

Move your camera dial off automatic and experience the true joy of photography. There are plenty of free YouTube videos that can greatly increase your photo knowledge, your photo confidence, and most importantly, your photo enjoyment.

5. Where would you take someone from out of town to take nature photos?

Bethany Lakes Park in Allen. You can photograph water birds on four separate lakes/ponds without ever leaving the cement paths.

6. Do you have a web site where members could go to see your images? If so, what is the URL?

Not yet.

7. Is there anything else that you would like to share with the club?

First, our club is made up of friendly experienced photographers who have a passion for helping folks of all ages new to our hobby.

Second, photography is not a contest to see who can spend the most money on equipment. You can learn to be a great photographer using the camera on your cell phone or by using an economical "point and shoot."



Some of Larry's images



Copyright Protection: The Sad Truth

January 17, 2017 [Rob Hull](https://www.tonycorbell.com/blog/2017/1/16/copyright) (<https://www.tonycorbell.com/blog/2017/1/16/copyright>)

Did you know that you have virtually no protection under copyright law today?

Sure, you've been told that the very moment you capture a photograph, that image is owned by you and protected by copyright laws.

What is often overlooked is that our one-size-fits-all copyright system is grossly ineffective in protecting the hundreds of thousands of small-business creatives.



Makes you wonder, what is the value of the © symbol?

It's estimated that 70% of professional photographers have dealt with copyright infringements. But let's get real. "Infringement" is such a polite word. We are dealing with theft.

When images are stolen, the estimated value of most cases is under \$3,000. And, copyright infringement is a federal crime and is handled in the federal system. Let's say you want to hire an intellectual property attorney to help you. The American Bar Association has estimated that for an attorney to even consider filing a federal lawsuit the damages likely to be recovered must be over \$30,000.

The harsh reality is that current copyright laws offer virtually no protection to the vast majority of creatives. But, all is not gloom and doom!

Any American creator - photographers, illustrators, designers and other visual artists - needs to be aware that this year we are facing a unique opportunity to fix the copyright laws.

Currently, there is bipartisan legislation being worked on in the House Judiciary Committee to introduce a small claims enforcement option administered by the United States Copyright Office.

David Trust, CEO of the Professional Photographers Association, has described the timing of this small claims process as a "perfect storm". He says, "This is our change, it's our fight, our opportunity, and it would likely be a generation before we get another chance like this."

This may sound a bit alarmist, but let's look at the facts. Our current copyright laws are based on The Copyright Act of 1976. These laws were adopted as a result of the United States' participation in the Universal Copyright

Convention (UCC) which was signed in 1955. Yes, it took 21 years just to get a bill passed that conforms to UCC standards.

Prior to that, the last major revision to copyright law in the United States was in 1909.

Today we are at a crossroads. We have bipartisan support. We have legislation being drafted and, remarkably, the past few weeks have seen this legislation get bumped up on the legislative calendar. Both parties are desperately looking for something to get behind that is not so decisive and this legislation seems to fit that bill.

It makes no difference what side of the isle you sit on. This bill is desperately needed and we need your help to make it through.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Join the Grassroots Action Team & help support legislation benefiting photographers!

SIGN UP NOW!

PPA
BE MORE Involved



What Can You Do?

[Join the Grassroots Action Team](#). It takes less than a minute and costs nothing. You simply give PPA your name, address, and email. This information will NOT be used for any marketing.

When the time is right, you'll get an email that will give you a link to a page where you can send a pre-written letter to your representatives in Congress.

Both signing up and sending the letter should take no more than a minute of your time. But the impact you have can be enormous. When the time is right we need to raise this bill out of the flotsam and jetsam of the Congressional process and make sure it gets its due process. And that means we need your help.

[Join The Grassroots Action Team](#)



<http://www.psa-photo.org/>

<http://www.gulfstatesccc.org/>

2017 CLUB OFFICERS

President: Ron Marabito
Co -Vice – President: Larry Wecsler
Co -Vice – President: Anita Oakley
Secretary: Peter Gilbert
Treasurer: Peter Gilbert
Membership: Tom Martin
Refreshments - Ed Pierce
Field Trips – Terree Stone
Field Trips: Jack Harrison
Field Trips: Jack Twiggs
Contest Coordinator: Jackie Ranney
Webmaster: Rob Hull
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Monthly Meeting

FEBRUARY 11, 2017

1:30 PM

Heard Natural Science Museum
1 Nature Place
McKinney, TX

<http://www.heardnaturephotographers.com/>.